NPS Form 10-900
(3-82)

OMB No. 1024-0018
Expires 10-31-87

AA-247

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic: Owens, James, Farm (preferred)

and or common: Watts Residence; Chaney Residence

2. Location

street & number: 5682 Greenock Road — N/A not for publication

city, town: Bristol — X vicinity of

state: Maryland code: 24 county: Anne Arundel code: 003

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	___ public	X occupied	X agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	X private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	X private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	___ government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
	X not applicable	___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name: Mr. and Mrs. E. Steuart Chaney

street & number: 5682 Greenock Road

city, town: Lothian — N/A vicinity of — state: Maryland 20711

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc.: Anne Arundel County Courthouse

street & number: Church Circle

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title: Maryland Historical Trust Historic Sites Inventory — has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date: 1975 — ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records: Maryland Historical Trust

city, town: Annapolis — state: Maryland 21401

7. Description

AA-247

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	___ unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	X altered	___ moved date N/A
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Number of Resources

Contributing	Non-contributing	
7	3	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
8	3	Total

Number of previously listed Register properties scheduled in this nomination: 0

Original and historic functions and uses: agriculture, residential

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The James Owens Farm, located in rural southwestern Anne Arundel County, includes a well-preserved collection of 19th century farm buildings of which the centerpiece is a large mid-19th century, two-story brick cross-gable late Greek Revival/Italianate dwelling. Symmetrical in design, the dwelling is the result of one construction period. The two-story, cross-gable main block consists of a central passage single pile plan with a rear wing composed of two, two-story wings with gable roofs set perpendicular to the main block and joined by a two-story stair passage. The final composition resembles a T-plan with a thick stem. It is constructed of brick laid in 7:1 common bond, and has a slate shingle roof. The exterior and interior finishings display a high degree of integrity with little or no alteration. Outbuildings include an early 19th century cornhouse, and early 19th century tobacco barn, a mid-19th century board-and-batten kitchen, carriage house, and smokehouse, and a late 19th century chicken house all of frame construction. Northeast of the dwelling there is evidence of a Victorian terraced garden. An early 20th century tobacco barn and two late 19th century tenant houses, which were extensively altered in the early and mid-20th century, are part of the farm complex, but do not contribute to the significance of the resource.

For General Description, see Continuation Sheet No. 1

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The James Owens Farm is located in rural southwestern Anne Arundel County on the north side of Greenock Road (State Route 259), approximately one mile north of the crossroads town of Bristol. It consists of approximately 81 acres of land, the greater part of which is actively cultivated.

Symmetrical design, the Greek Revival/Italianate style dwelling is the result of one construction period. The two-story, cross-gable main block consists of a central passage single-pile plan with a rear wing composed of two, two-story wings with gable roofs set perpendicular to the main block and joined by a two-story stair passage. The final composition resembles a T-plan with a thick stem.

An ornate one-story hip-roof porch covers the facade, the southeast elevation. It is embellished with Italianate posts and brackets and has a shallow coffered ceiling. A similar one-story frame porch fills the north corner of the main block and wing on the northeast elevation. A partially enclosed one-story frame porch with the same Italianate trim fills the west corner of the southwest elevation. A one-story frame bay window extends from the northeast gable end of the main block.

The house is constructed of brick laid in 7:1 common bond. The roof is covered with slate shingles. There are two pairs of interior centrally-placed brick chimneys, one in the main block and the other in the wing.

There are entrances into the house on each elevation. The principal entrance is centrally-placed on the facade (southeast elevation). It is composed of a six-panel door with a mid-19th century box lock, flanked by three-pane sidelights and surmounted by a three-pane transom. The entrance on the northeast elevation is located under the porch and is a "jib window" or one with a paneled moveable apron. The window above the apron is a 6/6 sash window. It opens onto the northeast porch affording access to a terraced garden located northeast of the house. The terraces are still clearly visible.

There are two entrances into the rear wing on the southwest elevation, one into the enclosed porch and another under the extended porch hood. The rear entrance, located in the recessed center bay of the northwest elevation, provides access to the stair hall. It is composed of a six-panel door with a 3-panel transom.

See Continuation Sheet No. 2

Windows are predominantly 6/6 sash with flat brick arches. Arched 6/3 sash windows light the gable ends of the main block and the cross-gable on the facade at the attic story. Large 6/9 sash windows light the first story bays of the facade. The lower sash, which extends to the floor, can be raised providing access to the porch.

In addition to the ornate Italianate porches, the exterior is embellished with scrolled modillions at the cornice on all elevations and on the two side porches and bay window.

The interior reflects the same proportions and detailing of the exterior of the house. As with the exterior, the interior displays a high degree of integrity with little or no alteration. It has been further enhanced by the recent restoration conducted by the present owners. Window and door architraves are original and utilize the same molding profile throughout the house. They feature plain board surrounds with an inner astragal and a quirk ogee and astragal backband.

The principal entrance opens into a central passage which is composed of an entrance hall and a stair hall in the rear wing. The doorway leading from the entrance hall into the stair hall is one of the most interesting elements of the house. It is composed of double louvered doors with raised panels below, surmounted by a fanlight. An ornate double-crosseted architrave with recessed square panels in the corners surrounds the doorway. When viewed from the stair hall (looking southeast), the architrave is the same except for the lack of the small square panels.

Just inside the entrance hall, doorways open into the two rooms flanking the passage. These original mid-19th century doors are composed of six-panels with large transoms which were added in the late 19th century. The entrance hall and flanking rooms have ornate covered plaster cornices with complex plaster moldings and plaster ceiling medallions. The entrance hall is further adorned with three plaster molded, square ceiling panels.

The southeast room flanking the entrance hall has a bay window on the northeast elevation. All of the windows in this room are embellished with elaborate pressed brass valances which are believed to be original to the land. The fireplace is centered on the interior wall and has a marbelized slate mantelpiece. Pocket doors, located on the northwest partition wall, led into the northeast room flanking the stair hall in the rear wing. This room has a plaster ceiling medallion and a marbelized slate mantel. The "jib window" (previously described) is located in this room.

See Continuation Sheet No. 3.

The southwest room flanking the entrance hall has a plain mid-19th century wooden mantel in addition to the previously mentioned ornamentation. A doorway on the northwest partition wall leads through a pantry and into the northwest room which functions as a kitchen. This room was converted to a kitchen in the mid-20th century. A doorway in the north corner of the kitchen leads to the rear of the stair hall. At the back of the stair, a door leads to a partial basement.

The staircase, with a bold mid-19th century turned newel post and turned balusters, rise to the second floor and to a finished attic. The second floor is based on the same floor plan as the first with an extra room over the entrance hall. Door and window architraves have the same molding profile as the first floor. The northeast, southeast, and southwest rooms have the same plain mid-19th century wooden mantels as in the southwest room of the first floor. The northwest room was converted to a bathroom in the mid-20th century.

On the second floor, directly above the first floor louvered door, is another exquisite doorway treatment. Here the open segmental arched doorway is elaborately molded, paneled and framed by pilasters, reminiscent of the late Federal/Greek Revival period.

The James Owens Farm has an excellent complement of outbuildings. One of the most important is the tobacco barn which stands in deteriorating condition approximately 1/4 mile southwest of the dwelling in an open field. The early 19th century barn measures 40 x 20 feet with later sheds measuring 40 x 12 feet along the northeast and southwest elevations. The southwest shed has collapsed. The barn is a rare Tidewater example of a post-in-the-ground timber frame tobacco barn with interrupted sills and tilted false plates.

The remaining outbuildings are grouped closer to the dwelling. An early 19th century cornhouse is located northwest of the dwelling. It measures 20 x 10 feet and is of heavy timber frame construction with tilted false plates. Original hewn and pit-sawn interior slats, as well as the original beaded gable siding and tapered bargeboards survive.

Standing immediately adjacent to the west corner of the dwelling is a small mid-19th century board-and-batten building which may have originally functioned as a kitchen. Early 20th century owners used it as a servants' quarters.

See Continuation Sheet No. 4

The entrance is in the northeast gable end facing the dwelling and is covered with a shed hood. The structure rests on masonry piers and has a relatively new wood shingle roof. The exterior walls show evidence of whitewash. Two 6/6 sash windows light the single room, one on the northwest elevation and the other on the southeast elevation. An interior brick chimney is located at the southwest gable end. Inside, a "Regal" brand stove survives from the days when this building was used as a dwelling.

The mid-19th century carriage house is located northwest of the dwelling. It measures 14 x 19-1/2 feet and is of heavy timber frame construction. Most of the exterior walls are covered with the original pit sawn vertical siding. An intriguing element of this building is the original carriage shaft holes located on the rear, northwest elevation. The carriage shafts which apparently were too long for the building, necessitated this innovative solution.

The frame mid-19th century smokehouse and late 19th century chicken house stand side-by-side directly behind the house.

Northeast of the dwelling is the remains of a terraced garden believed to be contemporary with the house. Evidence of three terraces can be seen. A few hardy boxwoods on the middle terrace are the only original plantings that survive. The upper terrace is part of the grassy lawn and the lower terrace is overgrown and wooded.

8. Significance

AA-247

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below				
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion	
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science	
___ 1500–1599	X agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture	
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social	
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ humanitarian	
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration settlement	___ philosophy	___ theater	
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	___ politics government	___ transportation	
		___ invention		___ other (specify)	

Specific dates circa 1850 **Builder Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Applicable Criteria: C
Applicable Exceptions: none
Significance Evaluated: local

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The James Owens Farm embodies the distinctive characteristics of a prosperous Western Shore farmstead during the agricultural - industrial transition period of Maryland's development. It displays a superior late Greek Revival/ Italianate brick farmhouse constructed for James Owens, a successful tobacco farmer, and a full complement of frame outbuildings indicative of the stability of this particular agricultural operation. Two of the outbuildings represent a method of construction unique to the Chesapeake Tidewater region and are the only documented examples of their type in Anne Arundel County.

For History and Support, see Continuation Sheet No. 5.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 1

History and Support

The fine brick dwelling which forms the centerpiece of the James Owens Farm is the only documented one of its kind in Anne Arundel County. Of the approximately 700 historic sites identified in the County to date, the James Owens dwelling is the only Greek Revival/Italianate brick house which displays such elegant proportions and finishings. The interior detailing, including deep coved plaster cornices, plaster ceiling medallions and the two exquisite door architraves in the first and second story central passage, illustrate the excellent craftsmanship of the house. It is also noteworthy for the high degree of architectural integrity. The plan and features are original with little or no alterations.

The accompanying outbuildings are noteworthy for their survival and variety. These buildings range in date of construction from the early 19th century, displaying the ongoing productivity of the farm and the continued use of the ancillary structures.

The cornhouse and tobacco barn utilize an 18th century Chesapeake framing system that continued to be used into the early 19th century in the Chesapeake region. The tobacco barn with its post-in-the-ground framing is an example of a building tradition roots that was kept alive and transplanted to an American setting. Based on literary sources and archaeological evidence, post-in-the-ground construction was the predominant architectural tradition in the South. These buildings were intended to serve as temporary structures that would be replaced when sufficient wealth had been accumulated. Very few examples survive.

The collection of buildings at the James Owens Farm provides excellent documentation that impermanent vernacular building traditions were still used in the early 19th century in the Chesapeake region, and co-existed with the construction of more permanent buildings.

The dwelling and most of the outbuildings were constructed in the mid-19th century during the ownership of James Owens, a prominent farmer and landholder in southern Anne Arundel County. At his death in 1895, he owned six farms amounting to over 2,000 acres of land. An earlier dwelling, on this farm, may have accommodated James Owens and his family, for in 1837 he was deeded 100 acres of "Portland Manor" by his father, James Owens. This was one year after his marriage to Mary Johnson. In the deed, James Owens, Sr. conveyed all buildings except one "50 feet tobacco house" to his son, James Owens, Jr., indicating that there were other buildings on the property.[1]

[1]Anne Arundel County Land Records, Liber WSG #22, folio 654; Anne Arundel County Marriage Records (Hall of Records).

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.2

In 1841, James Owens, Sr. conveyed an additional 77 acres, adjoining the 100 acres, to his son, James Owens, Jr. This 177 acres of "Portland Manor" was acquired by James Owens, Sr. in 1831 from Nicholas Darnall and Caroline Darnall, his wife, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.[2]

The early 19th century tobacco barn and cornhouse date from the ownership of the Darnall family. The 177 acres purchased by James Owens, Sr. was part of a 1,000 acre tract which included part of "Portland Manor" and part of "Shank Shaw," jointly owned by Nicholas Darnall and his brother, Henry Darnall, who had deceased by the time of the conveyance to James Owens, Sr.[3]

Nicholas and Henry Darnall were two of four mulatto sons of Bennett Darnall.[4] Not only did they inherit Bennett Darnall's property at his death in 1814, but they and their two brothers, William and Philip Darnall, were specially granted their freedom in Bennett Darnall's will. Bennett Darnall had manumitted his sons and their mother in three previous deeds of manumission. But, as Bennett Darnall stated in his will, he executed the deed several times "for greater caution fearing that the said former deed(s) might not be sufficiently discriptive (sic) of the persons intended."[5]

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[2]Anne Arundel County Land Records, Liber WSG #26, folio 70; and Liber WSG #16, folio 437.

[3]Anne Arundel County Land Records, Liber WSG #16, folio 437; and Probate Records-Testamentary Papers, Valuation of Property of Bennett Darnall, Box 130, folder 42.

[4]Bennett Darnall was the great-grandson of Col. Henry Darnall, son of the secretary to Sir George Calvert, first Lord Baltimore and related to the Calvert family on both of his parents' sides. Col. Henry Darnall was granted 1,090 acres of "Portland Manor" in 1699.

[5]Probate Records, Will of Bennett Darnall, Liber J. G. #3, folion 43; and Manumission Records, Liber 1797-1807, pp. 127, 128, 223, 224 and Liber 1807-1816, pp. 116-117.

See Continuation Sheet No. 8.3

At Bennett Darnall's death, Nicholas and Henry Darnall were 10 and 12 years of age, respectively. John Mercer of Cedar Park and the 10th Governor of Maryland (1801-1803) was appointed their guardian. Some of the property was sold in order to send Nicholas and Henry Darnall to Philadelphia for a Quaker education. The remainder of the property was farmed and the profit went to the livelihood of the Darnall orphans. It was most likely during this period that the tobacco barn and cornhouse were constructed.[6]

[6]Probate Records-Testamentary Papers, Box 116, folder 19; and Valuation of Property, Box 116, folder 13; Box 130, folder 42; and Box 149, folder 28.

9. Major Bibliographical References

See Footnotes under Section 8.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 81.418 acres

Quadrangle name Bristol, MD

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	18	355120	4296200
B	18	356160	4296210
C	18	355130	4295350
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

See Continuation Sheet No. 10.1

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Donna M. Ware
organization	Anne Arundel County Historic Sites Survey
date	March 1987
street & number	Arundel Center
telephone	(301) 280-1210
city or town	Annapolis
state	Maryland 21401

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national ___ state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature J. Michael 7-29-87

title STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

GPO 911-399

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

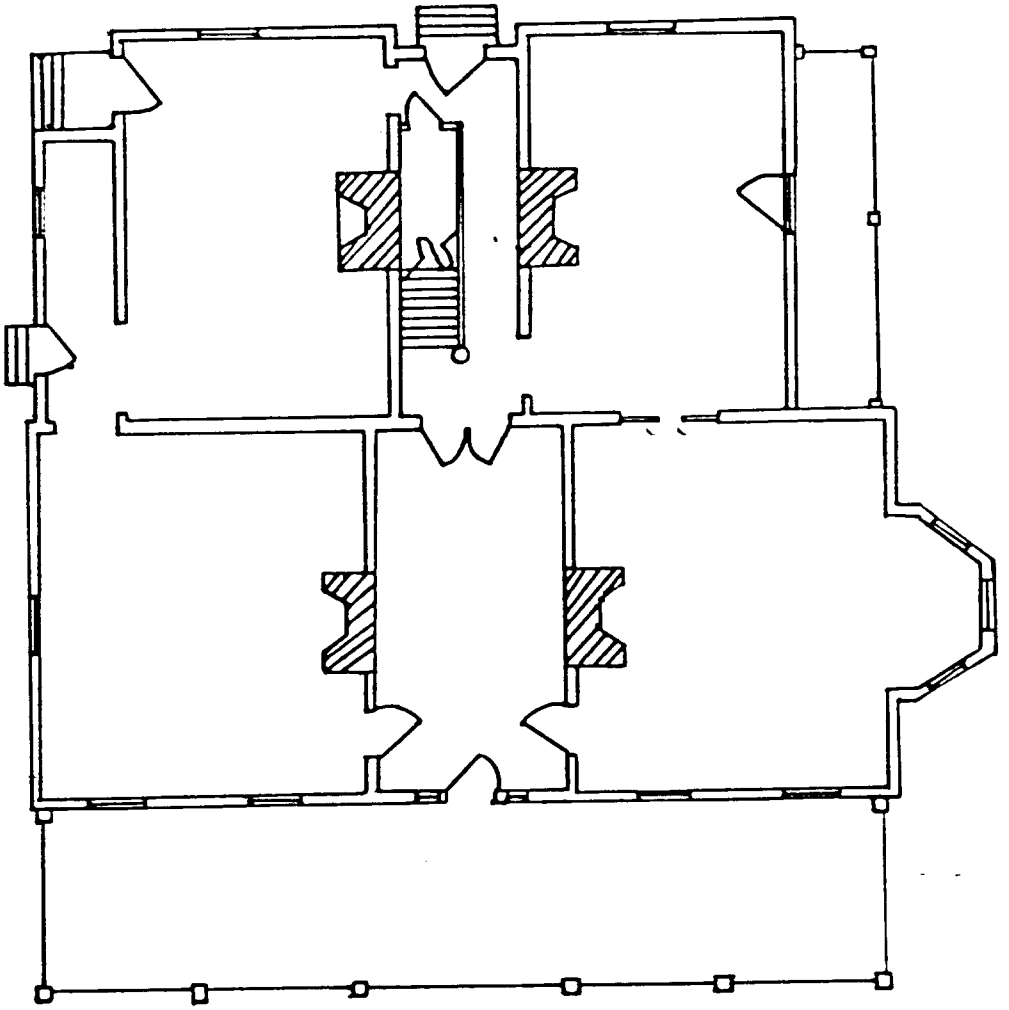
The boundaries are drawn on the attached map.

The boundary of the nominated property follows the legal property line and encompasses the contributing historic resources. Comprising 81.418 acres, the property contributes to the historical and architectural character of the nominated resources. It is the surviving portion of the 187-1/2 acre farm assembled by James Owens, Jr. in 1841. In the spring of 1987, the present owners sold an easement for the 81.418 acre farm to the Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Program. The owners wish that all 81.418 acres be listed in the National Register.

Physically, the property is rural, defined by flat cleared fields with hilly wooded areas along the property boundaries. The northern boundary is marked by the property line, beyond which is partially cleared and wooded land. Headwaters of two creeks which flow into the Patuxent River originate in this vicinity. The western boundary also follows the property line, beyond which lies partially cleared and wooded land. The southern boundary is marked by Greenock Road. This is an early road and has historically served as a boundary for this parcel. The majority of the historic resources are located in the eastern portion of the property beyond which lies wooded land, north of Greenock Road.

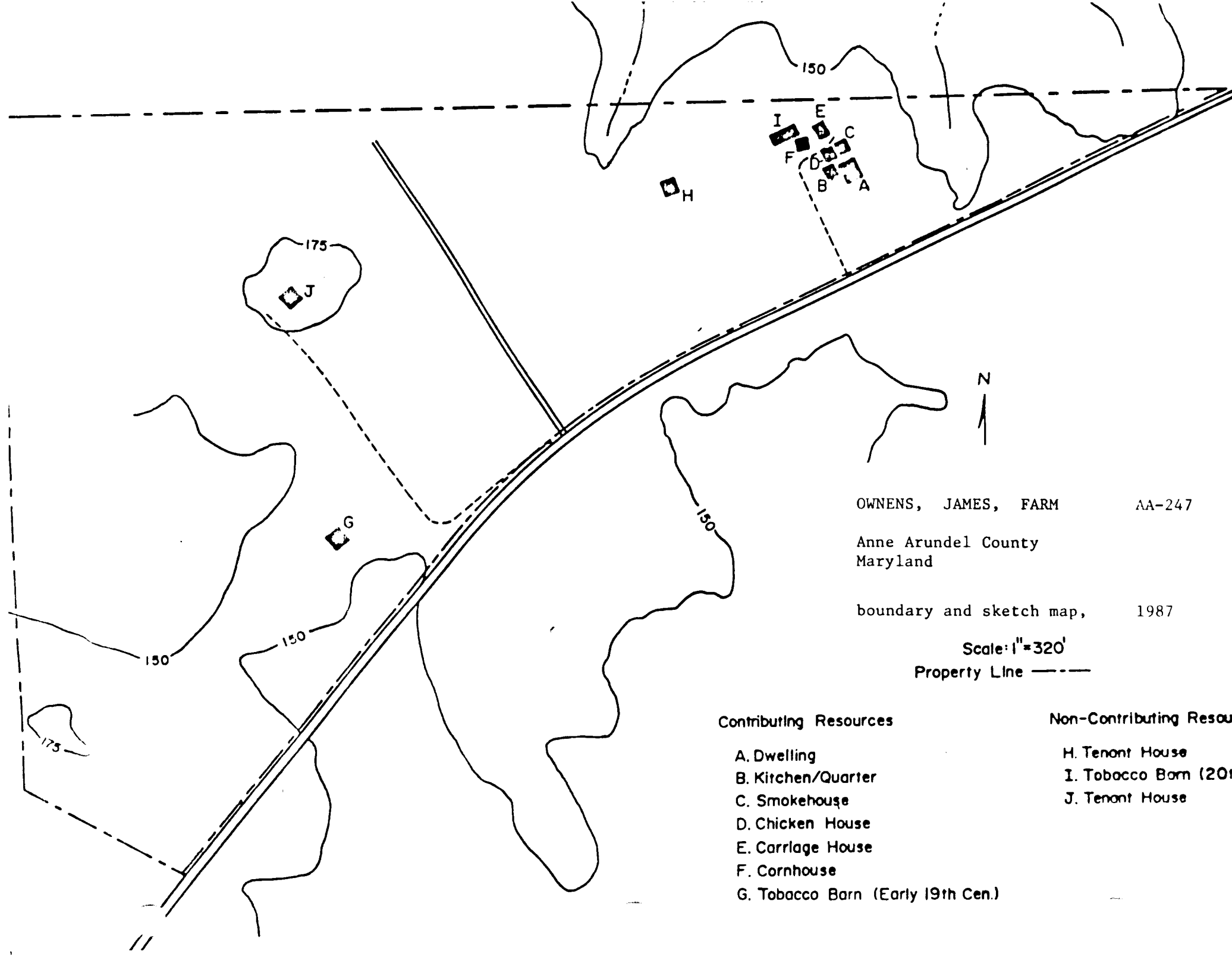
OWENS, JAMES, FARM AA-247

Anne Arundel County
Maryland



first floor plan not to scale

drawn by Donna M. Ware



OWNENS, JAMES, FARM AA-247

Anne Arundel County
Maryland

boundary and sketch map, 1987

Scale: 1"=320'

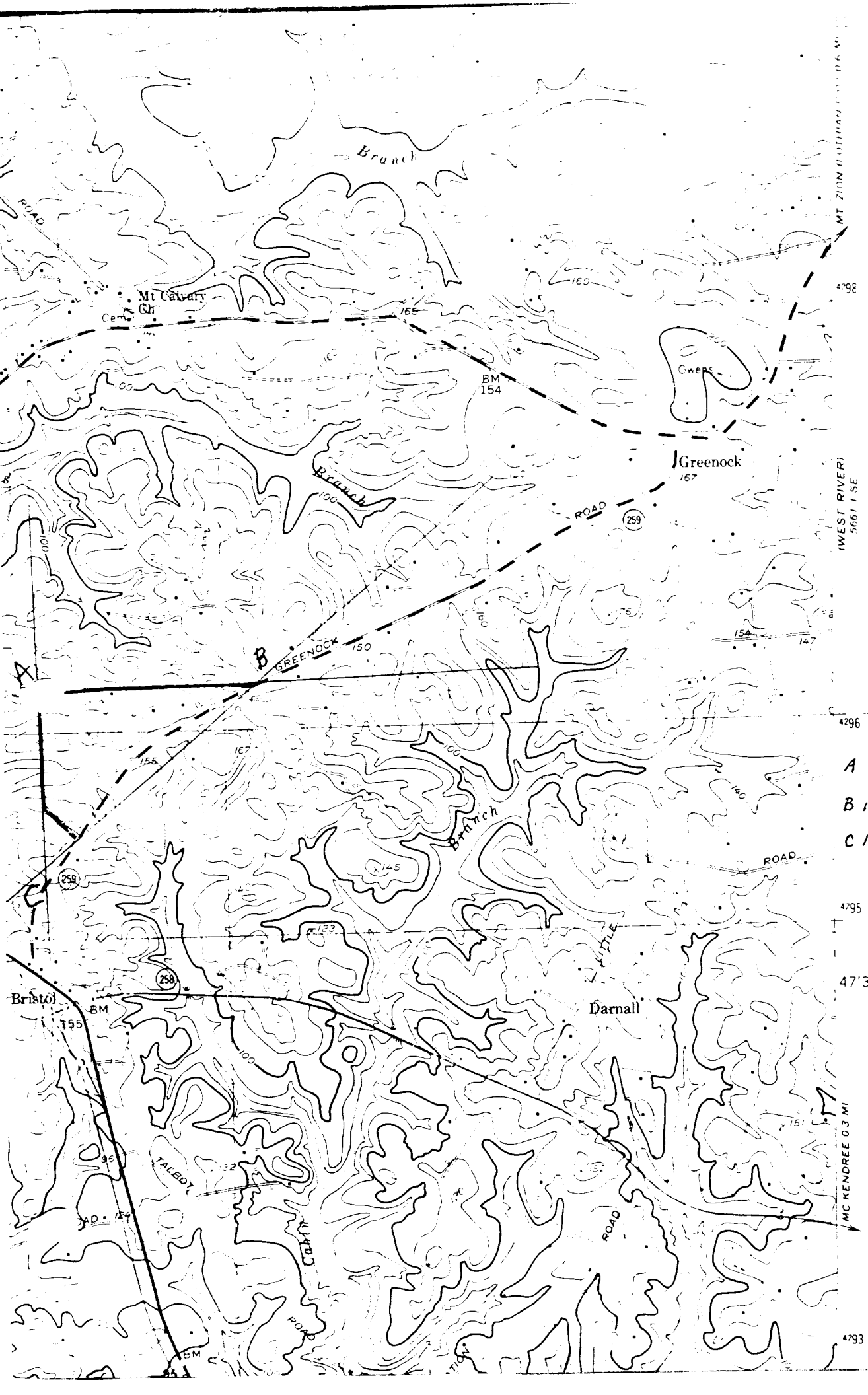
Property Line —·—

Contributing Resources

A. Dwelling
B. Kitchen/Quarter
C. Smokehouse
D. Chicken House
E. Carriage House
F. Cornhouse
G. Tobacco Barn (Early 19th Cen.)

Non-Contributing Resource

H. Tenant House
I. Tobacco Barn (20th C
J. Tenant House



Owens, James, farm
AA. 247
Anne Arundel Co
Maryland

A 18/355120/4296200
B 18/356160/4296210
C 18/355130/4295350

James Owens Farm AA-247
Anne Arundel Co., MD
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland Historical Trust
June 1986
Dwelling: Facade, S.E. elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986 (S.E elev.)
Dwelling: Facade, looking S.W.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Dwelling: Facade, S.E. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland Historical Trust
June 1986
Dwelling: Rear, ~~N.~~ W. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Dwelling: ~~West~~ E. N.E. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland Historical Trust
June 1986
Chicken house (right), Meathouse (left), rear N.W. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 1st flr entrance hall
door looking N.W.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 1st floor entrance hall
double doors, looking N.W.

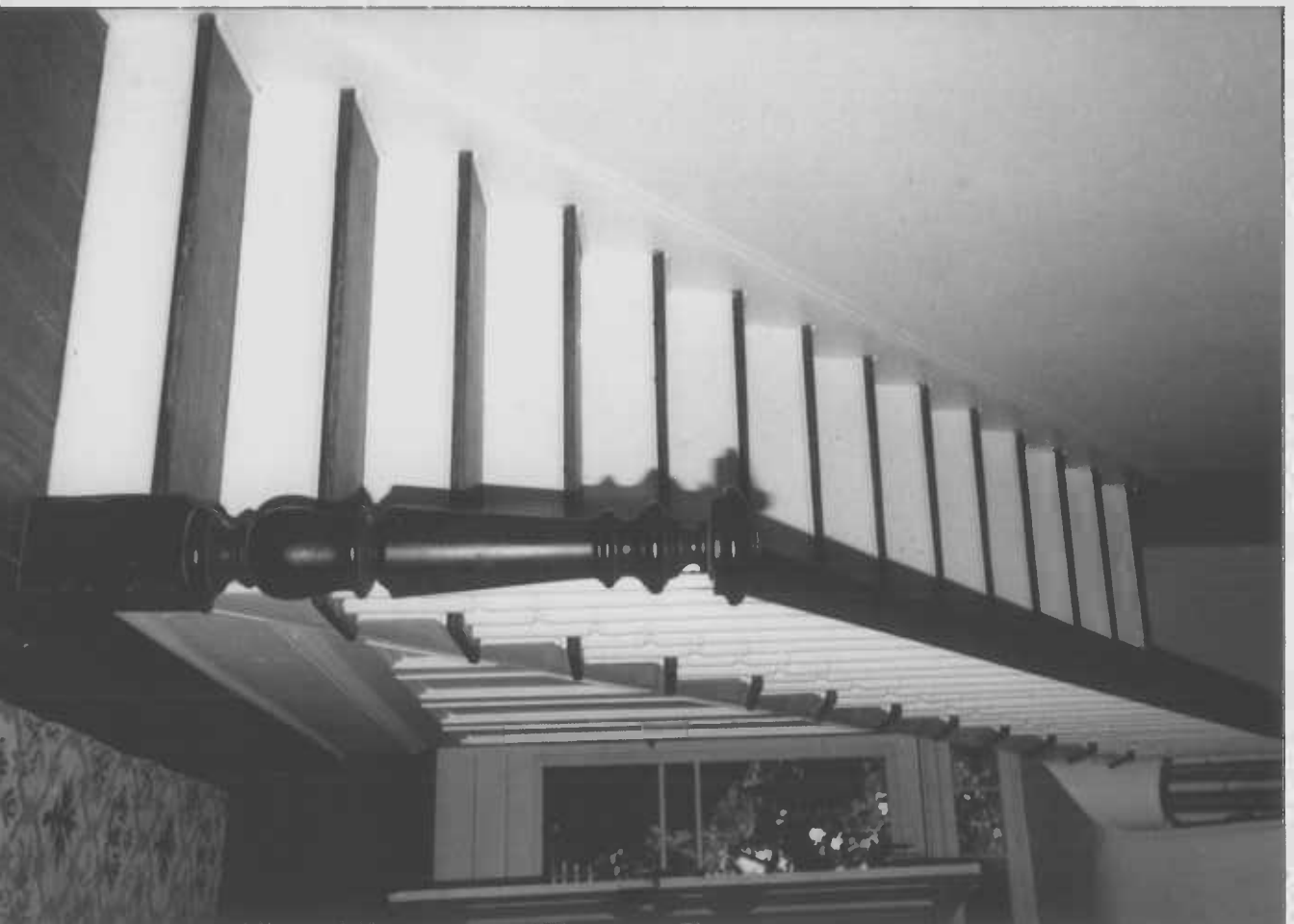
JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Inter: 1st flr entrance hall doorway looking S.E. from stair hall

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Int:detail of pressed brass valance
in 1st flr S.E. rm, looking S.E.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 1st flr S.E. room with
bay window looking N.E.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Inter: 1st flr door from entrance
hall to S.E. room, looking N.E.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 1st floor S.E. room,
looking S.W.



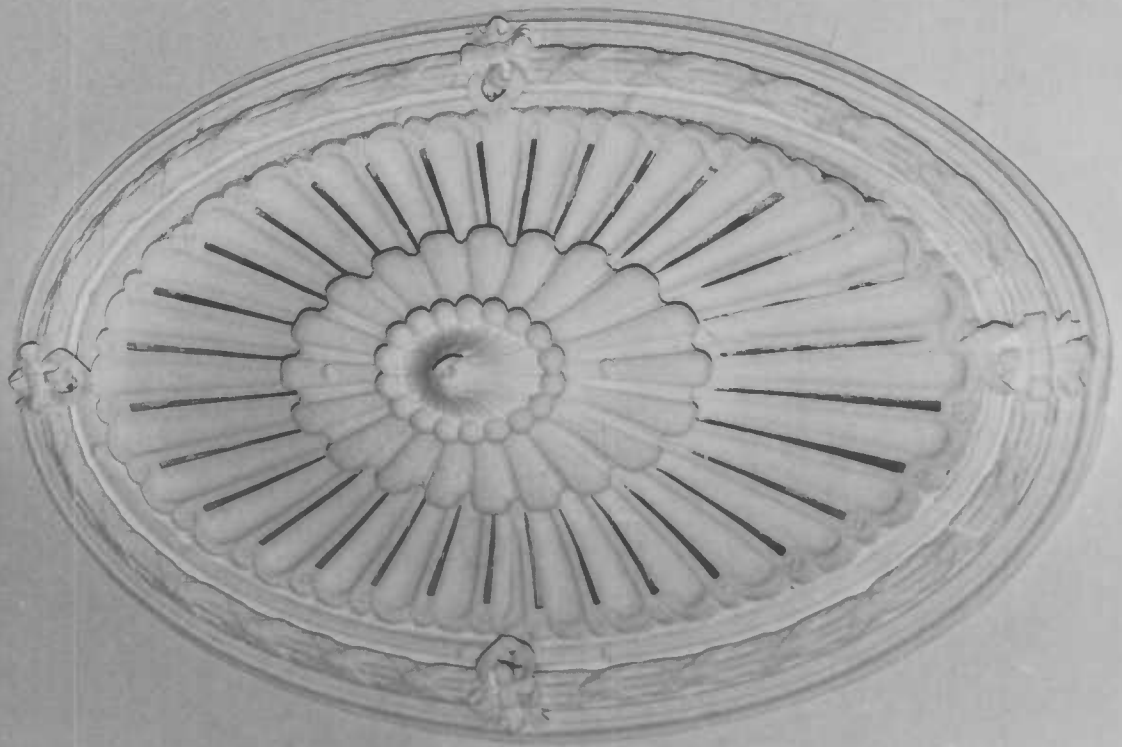
JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 1st floor stair,
looking west

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: detail of 2nd floor
doorway, looking S.E.

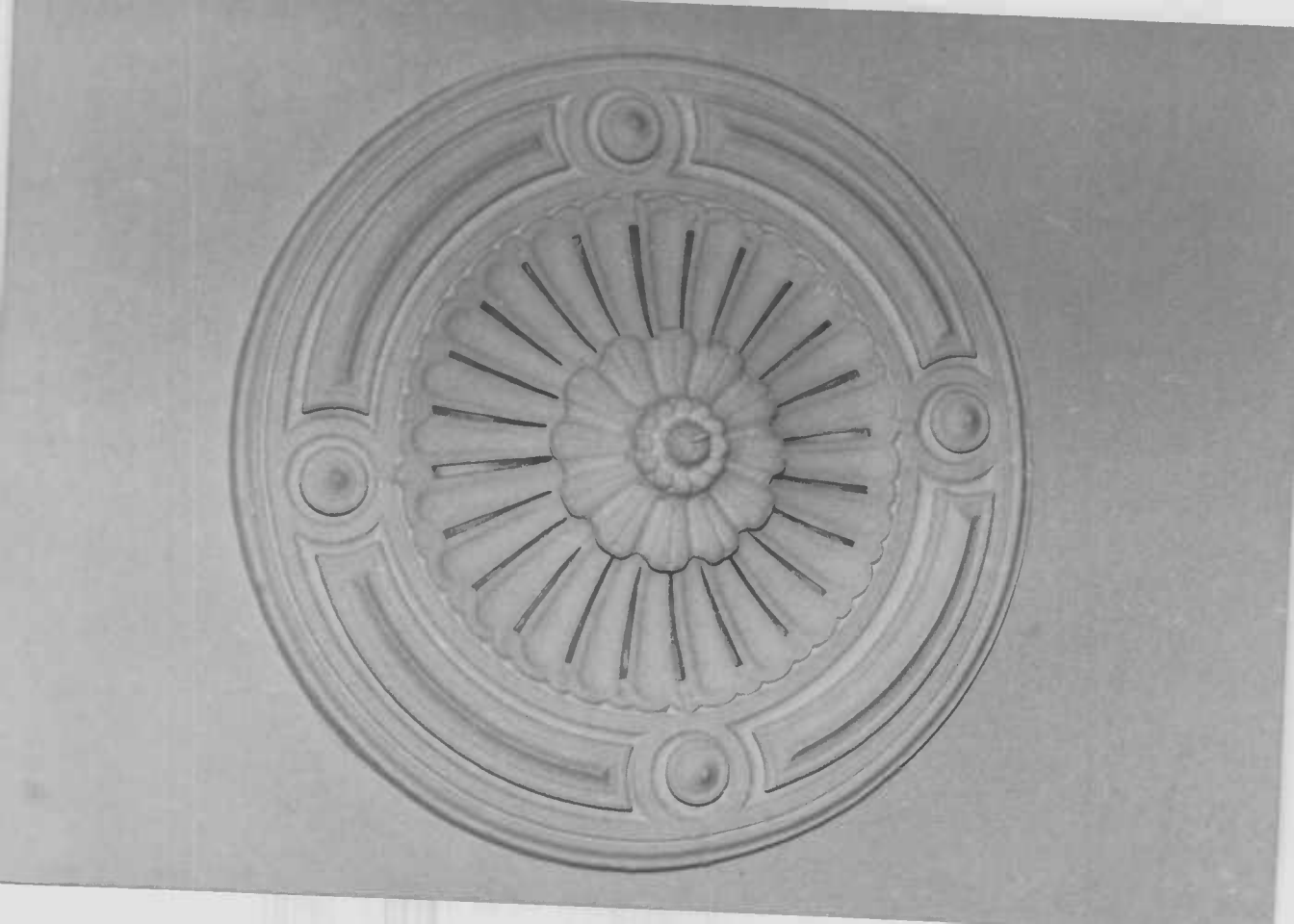
JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: Principal entrance,
looking S.E.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Inter: 2nd flr mantel in S.E. rm.
of main block, looking S.W.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: 2nd floor, segmental
arch doorway, looking S.E.



JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Interior: plaster ceiling medallion in 1st flr S.E. room



JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Inter: plaster ceiling medallion
in 1st flr rear wing N.E. room

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Chicken house (left) & Meathouse,
S.E. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Carriage house, S.E. gable end

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Kitchen/quarter, looking south

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Kitchen/quarter, S.E. Elev.

5 Dust

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland Historical Trust
June 1986
Kitchen/quarter, interior stove, looking S.W.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland Historical Trust
June 1986
Cornhouse, detail of tilted false plate N.W. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Looking N.E. toward dwelling &
kitchen/quarter

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Cornhouse, N.E. gable end

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Cornhouse, S.W. gable end

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Tobacco barn, N.W. Elev.

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Tobacco barn, S.E. Elev. & N.E.
gable end

JAMES OWENS FARM AA-247
Anne Arundel County, Maryland
Photo: Donna Ware
Negative location: Maryland
Historical Trust
June 1986
Terraced garden, looking N.W.

AA-40-M-b
(247)
(map 28)
0202475504

AA-247

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

NOMINATION FORM
for the
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON:
Watts ~~House~~ residence

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
North Side of Greenock Rd., (Rte. 259)

CITY OR TOWN:
2 Miles west of Jct. with Rte. 408 near Bristol

STATE: Maryland

COUNTY: Anne Arundel

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☑ Building	☐ Public	Public Acquisition:	☒ Occupied	Yes:
☐ Site ☐ Structure	☒ Private	☐ In Process	☐ Unoccupied	☐ Restricted
☐ Object	☐ Both	☐ Being Considered	☐ Preservation work in progress	☐ Unrestricted
				☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Agricultural	☐ Government	☐ Park	☐ Transportation	☐ Comments
☐ Commercial	☐ Industrial	☒ Private Residence	☐ Other (Specify)	
☐ Educational	☐ Military	☐ Religious		
☐ Entertainment	☐ Museum	☐ Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Mrs. Theodore F. Watts (Phone 741-9113)

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Bristol

STATE: Maryland

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Anne Arundel County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:
Annapolis, Maryland

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE

Map #72, A. D. #8, Parcel #62, Liber/Folio #GW 35/12

Title Reference of Current Deed (Book & Pg. #):

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY: ☐ Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)		(Check One)			
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL *(if known)* PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This large, 2-part, 2-story brick house has belonged to members of the Owens and Chaney families for generations. The father of the present owner acquired the house in the early 1900's.

The front part of the house was built (possibly by William Peake of Owensville) in the 1860's. It has a 5-bay facade with a gable, containing a small arched window, covering the center bay. A wide porch with ornate scroll work, bracket and molding details extends the length of the front. The second floor windows are 6-over-6's, the first floor (dining room and parlor) windows are 6-over-9's. A semi-octagonal bay window projects from the east end of the house. It has a brick foundation but is of frame construction, sheathed in carefully molded panels. The eaves around the entire house are decorated with moldings and brackets. The interior of the front section of the house has a center hall plan. The dining room and parlor chimneys have their backs to either side of the hall. The rooms have high ceilings with heavy plaster cornices and plaster medallions surrounding the ceiling fixtures. The mantels are massive, of black marble, with arched openings. The floors are pine, random width, tongue and groove.

Dividing the front and rear sections of the house is an ornate, panelled partition. Its arched opening has a glass fanlight and shutter doors. The rear section of the house contains the library, stairs and kitchen.

A small summer kitchen stands to the west of the house. It is of frame construction with board and batten siding.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Pre-Columbian
- ☐ 15th Century
- ☐ 16th Century
- ☐ 17th Century
- ☐ 18th Century
- ☒ 19th Century
- ☐ 20th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) *(If Applicable and Known)*

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE *(Check One or More as Appropriate)*

- ☐ Aboriginal
  - ☐ Prehistoric
  - ☐ Historic
- ☐ Agriculture
- ☒ Architecture
- ☐ Art
- ☐ Commerce
- ☐ Communications
- ☐ Conservation
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Engineering
- ☐ Industry
- ☐ Invention
- ☐ Landscape Architecture
- ☐ Literature
- ☐ Military
- ☐ Music
- ☐ Political
- ☐ Religion/Philosophy
- ☐ Science
- ☐ Sculpture
- ☐ Social/Humanitarian
- ☐ Theater
- ☐ Transportation
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Other *(Specify)* _____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

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9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY							OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES					
CORNER	LATITUDE			LONGITUDE				LATITUDE			LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"		°	'	"	°	'	"
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"							
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"							

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY:

Acreage Justification:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Amy Hiatt

ORGANIZATION
Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE
August 1975

STREET AND NUMBER:
Arundel Center

CITY OR TOWN:
Annapolis

STATE
Maryland

12. State Liaison Officer Review: (Office Use Only)

Significance of this property is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Signature

AA-247

AA-40-M-6 (map 28)

Watts House

South Elevation

amh 12-74

AA'X
24

(map 28) AA-40-M-6

Watts House

North Elevation

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(map 28) AA-40-M-6

Watts House

NE. Corner

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(map 28) AA-40 M-5

Watts House

Summer Kitchen

North Elevation

amh 12-74

AA-247

aa-40 M-b (mp 28)

Watts House

Front Porch detail

amh 12-74